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ing details. "The most careful cleanliness, the daily scrubbing of the decks, the frequent cleaning of the cabins and rooms, the washing and disinfecting with steaming vinegar, the pumping in of fresh air and the airing of the bedding on decks" all fail, however, to prevent disease. "Scurvy was developed as a result of tainted humors, for which the drinking of sea-water was used as a medicine, and also the chewing of tobacco." We have our doubts as to the efficiency of the British admiralty when we are told that "the water which in the whole fleet had been stored in new oaken casks became undrinkable, and became finally putrid. The beds of the soldiers were broken up in the storms; camp kettles and canteens were smashed; tents, clothing apparel, even the cartridges had been destroyed by the rats, which finally had even gnawed through the water casks." Of this kind of information about the transportation of soldiers a distance of 3,000 miles there is an abundance, and no student of the revolution can afford to neglect this work of an observer who possessed not a few literary gifts.

C. H. VAN TYNE

*The diplomacy of the war of 1812.* By Frank A. Updyke, Ph. D., Ira Allen Eastman professor of political science, Dartmouth College. [The Albert Shaw lectures on diplomatic history, 1914.] (Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins Press, 1915. 493 p. \$2.50)

From two points of view the publication of this volume is timely. It makes its appearance in the centennial year after the conclusion of peace between Great Britain and the United States; moreover, contemporary issues and events growing out of the world war now raging are strongly reminiscent of some of those pertaining to our second struggle with Great Britain.

The volume embodies the Albert Shaw lectures in diplomatic history delivered at Johns Hopkins University in 1914. In eleven chapters and 478 pages the author offers a comprehensive treatment of his subject, beginning with an account of the causes of the war and closing with a chapter on the settlement of the various boundary and other disputes between the two nations which were not disposed of in the treaty of Ghent. Thus the discussion of the vexed Newfoundland fisheries dispute is carried down to the arbitration award by the Hague tribunal, and the establishment of the permanent mixed fishery commission in our own day.

The fundamental cause of the war is found to be "the irreconcilable conflict of the British navigation acts with the commercial development of the United States." To the discussion of this topic two chapters, entitled "Impressment" and "Neutral trade," are devoted. A third chapter deals with the declaration of war and with the peace proposals.

The actual peace negotiations are described in four chapters. That the pathway of the neutral was far from rosy a century ago, even as it is now, is abundantly shown in the opening chapters. That the United States sincerely desired peace with Great Britain and France and patiently strove through weary years to maintain it, is also clear. Notwithstanding this fact, all the efforts of perhaps the most eminent pacifist America has produced did not suffice to preserve peaceful relations with Europe.

The author has performed for the reader, whether specialist or layman, the useful service of providing a sober and scholarly narrative of the diplomatic side of our second war for independence. In the reviewer's opinion the task has been well done. With no desire to indulge in captious criticism the regret may be expressed that more attention could not have been given to improving the literary qualities of the narrative. Such a paper as the recent one by Mr. Worthington C. Ford on "The treaty of Ghent—and after" shows that even diplomatic history may be made readable if there is sufficient determination on the part of the author to realize this end.

M. M. QUAIFE

*The political science of John Adams.* A study in the theory of mixed government and the bicameral system. By Correa Moylan Walsh. (New York and London: G. P. Putnam's Sons, 1915. 374 p. \$2.25)

This is a commentary on the political philosophy of Adams by a vigorous thinker whose reflections have led him to conclusions radically opposed to the "check and balance" system of the eighteenth century statesman. The book is not merely an account of what Adams thought, and how he came to think as he did, but also an exposition of the author's own political creed. The writings of Adams have been thoroughly digested and on the whole fairly interpreted, though in some instances the inferences drawn do not seem quite just. Thus (p. 111) Adams's plea for the "unrestrained liberty" of the president in appointments, because otherwise "he is not a check upon the legislature nor either branch of it," is said to prove conclusively his approval of the "corrupt ministerial patronage system which had in England grown into an immense power." This seems rather sweeping, especially in view of certain facts cited in the accompanying footnote, which are at least sufficient to leave a doubt in the reader's mind.

Three periods are distinguished in the history of Adams' political thinking. The first and most nearly democratic was that of his active leadership in the revolutionary movement and in the formation of the new state constitutions, notably the Massachusetts constitution of 1780.